Non-inclusion of Carpenters in the SC List

†880. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether she is aware that the carpenters in India have been given the status of Scheduled Caste under article 341 of the Constitution but major anomalies have arisen by not giving the status of Scheduled Caste to people belonging to carpentry living in the new areas included in the region on reorganization of the Himachal Pradesh after 1966;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Government of Himachal Pradesh as forwarded requisite information to Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) As per provision under Article 341 of the Constitution of India, the list of Scheduled Castes has been notified for each State/Union Territories. Carpenter has not been notified in the list of Scheduled Caste.

(b) and (c) A proposal for inclusion of Tarkhan community, whose profession is stated to be wood/iron work, in the list of Scheduled Caste for Himachal Pradesh was recommended by the State Government concerned. This proposal has been processed as per approved modalities and referred to the Registrar General of India for their views.

Immigration to USA from Poor Countries

†881. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than fifty thousand women and children are

---

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.